

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

The Action states that Claims 5-8 are allowed. Claims 9-29 and 40-42 stand rejected under Section 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under Section 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5, 969,295 to Prudhon (Prudhon). Claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under Section 103(a) as unpatentable over Prudhon in view of U.S. Patent No. 5, 969,295 to Boucino et al. (Boucino).

Claims 9-12 have been cancelled hereinabove. Claims 13, 25, and 40 have been amended hereinabove in response to the Examiner's indefiniteness concerns.

II. The Rejection of Claims 9-12

The Action rejected Claims 9-12 on several grounds, as summarized above. Claims 9-12 have been cancelled hereinabove. Therefore, Applicant submits that the rejection based on these claims must be withdrawn.

III. The Rejections Based on Indefiniteness

The Action states that Claims 9-29 and 40-42 are indefinite. Specifically, the Action points to the language present in Claims 9, 13, 25 and 40 of "pairs of twisted pairs of insulated conductors." The Action at page 2 states that this language "is unclear to how these pairs relate to the twisted pair recited early in the claim."

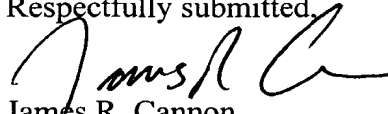
The objection to Claim 9 is moot because Claims 9-12 have been cancelled hereinabove. In response to the objections to Claims 13, 25 and 40, Applicant has amended the offending language to clarify its meaning and make it consistent with the earlier portion of the respective claims. The phrases in Claims 13, 25 and 40 now recite "a plurality of twisted pairs of insulated conductors, wherein each of the twisted pairs is disposed in a different one of the compartments." As such, Applicant submits that the rejections based on indefiniteness should be withdrawn.

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IV. Conclusion

Inasmuch as all of the outstanding issues raised in the Action have been addressed, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and request that it be passed to allowance and issue.

Respectfully submitted,




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